

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 105274

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ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:WDROGERS:CJS

APPROVED BY ARA:WDROGERS

S/S:JPMOFFAT

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O 061800Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 105274

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

-

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, BR

SUBJECT:SHRIMP BOAT SEIZURES: SILVEIRA LETTER PROTESTING  
SUSPENSION OF BILATERAL ASSISTANCE

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

1. I CALLED SILVEIRA SHORTLY AFTER WE TALKED.
2. I EXPLAINED THAT THE SECRETARY HAD READ SILVEIRA'S  
NOTE AND, SINCE THE SECRETARY WAS TESTIFYING TO CONGRESS,  
ASKED IF I WOULD CALL SILVEIRA AND TELL HIM THAT THE  
SECRETARY WAS PERSONALLY CONCERNED. WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO  
OUR LEGAL POSITION, WE WERE MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO  
CONTAIN AND LIMIT THE EFFECTS OF THE SIEZURES. WE ARE  
NOT INTERESTED IN BUILDING THE SEIZURES UP INTO A TEST  
OF OUR RESPECTIVE LEGAL POSITIONS ON THE LAW OF THE SEA.  
(I DID NOT SAY ANYTHING DIRECTLY ABOUT TALKING TO OUR  
SHRIMPERS.)

3. SILVEIRA INTERPOSED THAT THE SHRIMP AGREEMENT HAD  
BEEN PUT TOGETHER TO AVOID JUST SUCH PROBLEMS. THE GOB  
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PAGE 02 STATE 105274

HAD TRIED TO MINIMIZE THE EFFECTS OF THE UNAUTHORIZED

SHRIMPING. IT HAD NOT APPLIED ITS LAW WITH FULL VIGOR AGAINST THE SEIZED BOATS. BRAZIL WAS NOT TRYING TO CHALLENGE OUR FUNDAMENTAL LEGAL POSITION. THE SHRIMP AGREEMENT IMPLIED A KIND OF GENTLEMEN'S UNDERSTANDING TO LEAVE THE BASIC LEGAL QUESTION ASIDE. HE THEN COMPLAINED THAT FOLLOWING THE SEIZURE THE GOB HAD LEARNED OF THE AID SUSPENSION QUITE BY CHANCE. HE HAD HAD DIFFICULTY EXPLAINING TO THE PRESIDENT THAT THE SUSPENSION WAS AUTOMATIC. BRAZIL WAS A GOOD FRIEND OF THE UNITED STATES. IT WAS HARD TO UNDERSTAND WHY IT WAS TREATED IN THIS FASHION. HIS TONE WAS FRIENDLY BUT CONCERNED.

4. I REPLIED: OUR LAW REQUIRING A TECHNICAL SUSPENSION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE IS AUTOMATIC. WE WILL, HOWEVER, HAVE A WAIVER BY THE TIME HE ARRIVES. ON THURSDAY THE MATTER WILL BE RETURNED TO THE STATUS QUO ANTE. (AND THERE WAS NOTHING PUNITIVE ABOUT THE TECHNICAL SUSPENSION IN THE FIRST PLACE.)

5. HE SAID, "YOU MEAN THE SUSPENSION WILL BE SUSPENDED." I SAID, "EXACTLY."

6. HE WAS DELIGHTED WITH THIS NEWS. HE SAID HE WOULD IMMEDIATELY CALL HIS PRESIDENT AND TELL HIM.

7. I CONFIRMED THAT HE WOULD BE LUNCHING WITH THE SECRETARY ON SATURDAY. KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, PLOS, BR, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (AZEREDO DA SILVEIRA, ANTONIO F)  
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